

From: RDavis
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 1:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To whom it concerns,

I do not feel that the proposed settlement will do enough to change the practices of the Microsoft Corporation. Remember that this company used loopholes in the 1994 consent decree to continue their monopolistic practices. The final remedy needs to carefully close loopholes and include continuous monitoring and severe penalties for continued monopolistic practices. As one example, the current proposal is very specific to particular versions of Microsoft software and operating systems. What will happen to the settlement if one month after it is finalized, Microsoft changes the names of all their products?

There are many other things not addressed in the proposed settlement, I'm sure many others will do a better job explaining them than I will, but just to mention a few that concern me: Closed proprietary file formats for things such as word processing documents, Licencing agreements that force organizations to pay for Microsoft products that they do not use, End user licence agreements that prohibit using competing software or open source software, Continued "embrace, extend and extinguish" practices where open standards are weakened by Microsoft, etc.

Thank you for your time.

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